



BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
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FACT SHEET  
RESTORATION OF AN EXPIRED OPTOMETRIC LICENSE  
IF NOT RENEWED WITHIN 3 YEARS

An optometrist license that has not been renewed within 3 years after its expiration may be restored thereafter by meeting the following requirements as defined in Business & Professions Code §3147.6 (a) through (e):

1. Submit a written request for restoration.
2. Submit a \$275.00 license fee.
3. Submit a \$300.00 restoration fee.
4. Submit to a criminal background search by submitting fingerprints to the California Department of Justice.
5. Pass part II (Clinical Science) of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBO).
6. Pass the California Laws and Regulations Examination.
7. Provide proof of having met continuing education requirements.<sup>1</sup>
  - TPA certified optometrists shall complete 50 hours of continuing education. 35 of the required 50 hours of continuing education shall be on the diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease.
  - Non-TPA certified optometrist shall complete 40 hours of continuing education.

**EXCEPTION FOR OUT OF STATE LICENSED OPTOMETRIST**

Business & Professions Code §3147.7 provides that an optometrist who holds an expired California license and provides satisfactory proof that they hold an active license from another state is not subject to the requirements stated above. The optometrist is allowed to renew under Business & Professions Code §3147, which sets the following requirements:

1. Submit proof of a current and unrestricted out-of-state license. (Letter of good standing)
2. Submit a \$300.00 renewal fee.
3. Submit a \$25.00 penalty fee.
4. Provide proof of having met continuing education requirements.<sup>1 & 2</sup>
  - A TPA certified optometrist shall complete 50 hours of continuing education. 35 of the required 50 hours of continuing education shall be on the diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease.
  - A non-TPA certified optometrist shall complete 40 hours of continuing education.

<sup>1</sup>Submit original certificates of completion. Upon review and approval, these certificates will be returned.

<sup>2</sup>An optometrist who has served in the regular armed forces of the United States during any part of the 24 months immediately preceding their request for renewal is exempt from this requirement.